

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method in a data processing system for managing a messaging session, said method comprising the steps of:
determining a participant has disengaged activity in the messaging session;
determining a current activity of the participant; and
transmitting a status indication to another participant in the messaging session that indicates the current activity of the participant.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the status indication is a textual message to the message recipient.
3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the status indication is a graphic presented to the message recipient.
4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the message recipient specifies how the status indication is presented to the message recipient.
5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of determining a current activity of the participant comprises determining a current activity of the participant with a hardware system component of the data processing system.
6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of determining a current activity of the participant comprises determining a current activity of the participant with a software system component of the data processing system.

7. A data processing system for managing telephone numbers contained within a web page in accordance with user preferences, said system comprising:

means for determining a participant has disengaged activity in the messaging session;

determining a current activity of the participant; and

transmitting a status indication to another participant in the messaging session that indicates the current activity of the participant.

8. The data processing system according to claim 7, wherein the status indication is a textual message to the message recipient.

9. The data processing system according to claim 7, wherein the status indication is a graphic presented to the message recipient.

10. The data processing system according to claim 7, wherein the message recipient specifies how the status indication is presented to the message recipient.

11. The data processing system according to claim 7, wherein the step of determining a current activity of the participant comprises determining a current activity of the participant with a hardware system component of the data processing system.

12. The data processing system according to claim 7, wherein the means for determining a current activity of the participant comprises means for determining a current activity of the participant with a software system component of the data processing system.

13. An article of manufacture comprising machine-readable medium including program logic embedded therein that causes control circuitry to perform the steps of:
determining a participant has disengaged activity in the messaging session;
determining a current activity of the participant; and
transmitting a status indication to another participant in the messaging session
that indicates the current activity of the participant.

14. The article of manufacture of Claim 13, wherein the status indication is a textual message to the message recipient.

15. The article of manufacture of Claim 13, wherein the status indication is a graphic presented to the message recipient.

16. The article of manufacture of Claim 13, wherein the message recipient specifies how the status indication is presented to the message recipient.

17. The article of manufacture of Claim 13, wherein the step of determining a current activity of the participant comprises determining a current activity of the participant with a hardware system component of the data processing system.

18. The article of manufacture of Claim 13, wherein the step of determining a current activity of the participant comprises determining a current activity of the participant with a software system component of the data processing system.